

**U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management**

Categorical Exclusion

Communications Site Management Plan – Ten Sleep

November 2015

PREPARING OFFICE

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Worland Field Office



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Chapter 1. Communications Site Management Plan – Ten Sleep

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1.1. Background

NEPA Number: DOI-BLM-WY-R010-2015-0047-CX:

BLM Office: Worland Field Office

Lease/Serial/Case File No.: Ten Sleep Communications Site

Proposed Action Title/Type: Ten Sleep Communications Site Management Plan

Location of Proposed Action:

Sixth Principal Meridian, Wyoming,

T. 47 N., R. 87 W.,

sec. 19, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$.

Description of Proposed Action:

This Communication Site Management Plan provides applicable guidance and adds current policy and technical standards for better management of the Ten Sleep Communication Site. This plan governs development and management of Ten Sleep Communications Site and will be modified in the future as needs and conditions warrant. Any future such uses must be designed, installed, operated, and maintained to be compatible and not interfere with the senior uses as defined in Section A of the plan. This site-specific plan is administrative in **nature**; no new surface disturbance is authorized.

1.2. Land Use Plan Conformance

Land Use Plan Name: Worland Resource Management Plan Date Approved: September 21, 2015

This plan has been reviewed to determine if the proposed action conforms to the land use plan as required by 43 CFR 1610.5. The proposed action conforms to the Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan for the Worland Field Office dated September 21, 2015. The decisions in the Worland Resource Management Plan (WRMP) provide overall management direction for resources on BLM-administered land in the Worland Field Office, Wyoming.

The proposed action is in conformance with the applicable LUP because it is specifically provided for in the following LUP decisions:

WRMP/ROD record numbers:

6000, Manage public lands to meet transportation and ROW needs consistent with goals and objectives of other resources.

6022, Develop communication site management plans for all communication site concentration areas (Map 3-24).

6027, Authorize communication site facilities on a case-by-case basis. Encourage development within designated areas. Co-locate new communication sites where possible.

The Worland RMP (pgs 107-109) delineates preferred right-of-way corridors, right-of-way avoidance areas, right-of-way exclusion area, and area available for right-of-way. The Worland RMP states that the BLM would manage public lands to meet transportation and ROW needs by providing opportunities to meet ROW demands while protecting important resources.

1.3. Compliance with NEPA:

The Proposed Action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with 516 DM 2, Appendix 1, 1.10 “Policies, directives, regulations, and guidelines: that are of an administrative, financial, legal, technical, or procedural nature; or whose environmental effects are too broad, speculative, or conjectural to lend themselves to meaningful analysis and will later be subject to the NEPA process, either collectively or case-by-case.”

This categorical exclusion is appropriate in this situation because there are no extraordinary circumstances potentially having effects that may significantly affect the environment. The proposed action has been reviewed, and none of the extraordinary circumstances described in 43 CFR Part 46.215 apply.

I considered: this is an existing site-specific communications management plan and administrative in nature, no new surface disturbance is authorized.

1.4. Approval and Contact Information

/s/ Michael J. Phillips	12/29/2015
Michael J. Phillips, Worland Field Office Manager	Date

Contact Person

For additional information concerning this CX review, contact Connie Craft, Realty Specialist, Worland Field Office, 101 South 23rd Street, Worland, WY 82401, 307-347-5233.

Appendix A. Extraordinary Circumstance Review

Extraordinary Circumstances			
Would the proposed project....			
1. Have significant impacts on public health or safety?			
Yes	No	Resource	Rationale
	X	Wastes (Solid or Hazardous)	<i>No new facilities or disturbances are proposed under this communications site management plan. Wastes will be handled in accordance with state and federal laws.</i>
	X	Public Health or Safety	<i>Amendment of this communications site management plan would not increase the risk of public health or safety in the project area.</i>
2. Have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation or refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (Executive Order 11990); floodplains (Executive Order 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas?			
Yes	No	Resource	Rationale
	X	Sole or principal drinking water aquifers	<i>No new facilities or disturbances are proposed under this amendment. No rights are conveyed beyond those granted by the original communications site management plan.</i>
	X	Prime farmlands	None present in WFO
	X	Wetlands	<i>No new facilities or disturbances are proposed under this amendment. No rights are conveyed beyond those granted by the original communications site management plan.</i>
	X	Floodplains	<i>No new facilities or disturbances are proposed under this amendment. No rights are conveyed beyond those granted by the original communications site plan.</i>
	X	National monuments	None present in WFO
	X	Migratory birds	<i>No new facilities or disturbances are proposed under this amendment. No rights are conveyed beyond those granted by the original communications site management plan.</i>
	X	National Natural landmarks	None present in WFO
	X	Wild/Scenic Rivers	<i>No new facilities or disturbances are proposed under this amendment. No rights are conveyed beyond those granted by the original communications site management plan.</i>
	X	Wilderness Areas	<i>No new facilities or disturbances are proposed under this amendment. No rights are conveyed beyond those granted by the original communications site management plan.</i>
	X	Park/recreation/refuge lands	<i>No new facilities or disturbances are proposed under this amendment. No rights are conveyed beyond those granted by the original communications site management plan.</i>
	X	Historic or Cultural resources	<i>No new facilities or disturbances are proposed under this amendment. No rights are conveyed beyond those granted by the original communications site management plan.</i>
	X	Other ecologically significant or critical areas (Wild Horses/HMA, LWCs, etc.)	<i>No new facilities or disturbances are proposed under this amendment. No rights are conveyed beyond those granted by the original communications site management plan.</i>
3. Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA section 102 (2) (E)]?			
Yes	No	Resource	Rationale

Extraordinary Circumstances			
Would the proposed project....			
	X	Vegetation	<i>No new facilities or disturbances are proposed under this amendment. No rights are conveyed beyond those granted by the original communications site management plan.</i>
	X	Soils	
	X	Hydrology	
	X	Recreation	
	X	Visual Resources	
	X	Wildlife	
	X	Lands/Access	
	X	Travel Management	
4. Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks?			
Yes	No	Resource	Rationale
	X	Vegetation	<i>No new facilities or disturbances are proposed under this amendment. No rights are conveyed beyond those granted by the original communications site management plan. No effects would be expected beyond what is currently occurring.</i>
	X	Soils	
	X	Hydrology	
	X	Recreation	
	X	Visual Resources	
	X	Wildlife	
	X	Lands/Access	
	X	Travel Management	
5. Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principal about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects?			
Yes	No	Resource	Rationale:
	X	Vegetation	<i>No new facilities or disturbances are proposed under this amendment. No rights are conveyed beyond those granted by the original communications site management plan. No actions or connected actions requiring further analysis would result by amending this communications site management plan.</i>
	X	Soils	
	X	Hydrology	
	X	Recreation	
	X	Visual Resources	
	X	Wildlife	
	X	Lands/Access	
	X	Travel Management	
6. Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects?			
Yes	No	Resource	Rationale
	X	Vegetation	<i>No new facilities or disturbances are proposed under this amendment. No rights are conveyed beyond those granted by the original communications site management plan. Amending this communications site management plan would not have a direct relationship to other actions causing cumulatively significant effects on vegetative resources.</i>
	X	Soils	
	X	Hydrology	
	X	Recreation	
	X	Vegetation	<i>No new facilities or disturbances are proposed under this amendment. No rights are conveyed beyond those granted by the original communications site management plan. Amending this communications site management plan would not have a direct relationship to other actions causing cumulatively significant effects on vegetative resources.</i>
	X	Soils	<i>No new facilities or disturbances are proposed under this amendment. No rights are conveyed beyond those granted by the original communications site management plan. Amending this communications site management plan would not have a direct relationship to other actions causing cumulatively significant effects on soil resources.</i>
	X	Hydrology	<i>No new facilities or disturbances are proposed under this amendment. No rights are conveyed beyond those granted by the original communications site management plan. Amending this communications site management plan would not have a direct relationship to other actions causing cumulatively significant effects on hydrologic resources.</i>
	X	Recreation	<i>No new facilities or disturbances are proposed under this amendment. No rights are conveyed beyond those granted by the original communications site management plan. Amending this communications site management plan would not have a direct relationship to other actions causing cumulatively significant effects on recreation areas or values.</i>

Extraordinary Circumstances			
Would the proposed project....			
	X	Visual Resources	<i>No new facilities or disturbances are proposed under this amendment. No rights are conveyed beyond those granted by the original communications site management plan. Amending this authorization would not have a direct relationship to other actions causing cumulatively significant effects on visual resources.</i>
	X	Wildlife	<i>No new facilities or disturbances are proposed under this amendment. No rights are conveyed beyond those granted by the original communications site management plan. Amending this communications site management plan would not have a direct relationship to other actions causing cumulatively significant effects on wildlife habitat</i>
	X	Lands/Access	<i>No new facilities or disturbances are proposed under this amendment. No rights are conveyed beyond those granted by the original communications site management plan. Amending this authorization would not have a direct relationship to other actions causing cumulatively significant effects on land uses.</i>
	X	Travel Management	<i>No new facilities or disturbances are proposed under this amendment. No rights are conveyed beyond those granted by the original communications site management plan. Amending this authorization would not have a direct relationship to other actions causing cumulatively significant effects on public access.</i>
7. Have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places as determined by the bureau?			
Yes	No	Rationale	
	X	No new surface disturbance is authorized under this application. No historic properties are located within the project area.	
8. Have significant impacts on species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat for these species?			
Yes	No	Resource	Rationale
	X	Wildlife	<i>No new facilities or disturbances are proposed under this amendment. No rights are conveyed beyond those granted by the original communications site management plan.</i>
	X	Plants	<i>No new facilities or disturbances are proposed under this amendment. No rights are conveyed beyond those granted by the original communications site management plan.</i>
9. Violate a Federal law, or a State, local or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment?			
Yes	No	Resource	Rationale
	X	Vegetation	The project does not violate any known federal, state or local law or requirement imposed for the protection of vegetative resources.
	X	Soils	The project does not violate any known federal, state or local law or requirement imposed for the protection of soils resources.
	X	Hydrology	The project does not violate any known federal, state or local law or requirement imposed for the protection of hydrologic resources.
	X	Recreation	The project does not violate any known federal, state or local law or requirement imposed for the protection of recreation areas and values.
	X	Visual Resources	The project does not violate any known federal, state or local law or requirement imposed for the protection of visual resources.
	X	Wildlife	The project does not violate any known federal, state or local law or requirement imposed for the protection of wildlife habitats.
	X	Lands/Access	The project does not violate any known federal, state or local law or requirement imposed for the protection of land uses.
	X	Travel Management	<i>The project does not violate any known federal, state or local law or requirement imposed for the protection of public access.</i>

Extraordinary Circumstances		
Would the proposed project....		
10. Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898)?		
Yes	No	Rationale
	X	<i>No low income or minority populations occur in the project area. No new facilities or disturbances are proposed under this amendment. No rights are conveyed beyond those granted by the original communications site management plan.</i>
11. Limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on Federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (Executive Order 13007)?		
Yes	No	Rationale
	X	<i>No sacred sites or site types of interest, based on previous consultation, were identified.</i>
12. Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act and Executive Order 13112)?		
Yes	No	Rationale
	X	<i>No new facilities or disturbances are proposed under this amendment. No rights are conveyed beyond those granted by the original communications site management plan. Amendment of this communications site management plan would not contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area. No actions would be authorized under this CX that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species.</i>